

Teen Outreach Program

Program description:

Teen Outreach Program (TOP) is a volunteer service learning program for high school students, aimed at high risk adolescents, and consisting of supervised community volunteer experience (e.g. in nursing homes, senior centers, child care centers) of between 20 to 40 hours per school year to increase students' social engagement with peers, teachers, and community adults. This is coupled with classroom discussions of the volunteer experience as well as other topics (15 percent or less on sexuality) with trained teachers/facilitators. Trained program staff coordinate the placements of students with community agencies.

Typical age of primary program participant: 16

Typical age of secondary program participant: N/A

Meta-Analysis of Program Effects

Outcomes Measured	Primary or Secondary Participant	No. of Effect Sizes	Unadjusted Effect Sizes (Random Effects Model)			Adjusted Effect Sizes and Standard Errors Used in the Benefit-Cost Analysis					
						First time ES is estimated			Second time ES is estimated		
			ES	SE	p-value	ES	SE	Age	ES	SE	Age
Teen pregnancy (under age 18)	P	2	-0.55	0.21	0.00	-0.27	0.21	17	-0.27	0.42	27

Benefits and costs were not estimated for teen pregnancy prevention programs.

Discount Rates Applied to the Meta-Analysis

Type of Discount	Discount Rate
1- Less well-implemented comparison group or observational study, with some covariates.	0.5
2- Well-implemented comparison group design, often with many statistical controls.	0.5
3- Well-done observational study with many statistical controls (e.g., instrumental variables).	0.75
4- Random assignment, with some implementation issues.	0.75
5- Well-done random assignment study.	1.00
Program developer = researcher	0.5
Unusual (not "real-world") setting	0.5
Weak measurement used	0.5

Studies Used in the Meta-Analysis

Allen, J. P., Philliber, S., Herrling, S., & Kuperminc, G. P. (1997). Preventing teen pregnancy and academic failure: Experimental evaluation of a developmentally based approach. *Child Development*, 64(4), 729-742.

Philliber, S., & Allen, J. P. (1992). Life options and community service: Teen outreach program. In B. C. Miller, J. J. Card, R. L. Paikoff, & J. L. Peterson (Eds.), *Preventing adolescent pregnancy: Model programs and evaluations* (pp. 139-155). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.